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SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR

1958.

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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1958

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1958.)

Chairman: Councillor A.G.W. PENNY, C.C.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor E.C. DAVIS

Chairman of the Council: Councillor A.W. LEWIS, J.P.

Councillor: D. R. HAYLE

" R. R. LUMLEY

" E. T. SHARMAN

" MRS. I. J. SWEET





Tel. Shoreham 2257.

St. Wilfrid's,  
Ham Road,  
Shoreham.

August, 1959.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1958.

The order of the Vital Statistics has been changed slightly at the request of the Ministry of Health, for ease of comparison with other districts.

Apart from measles there were no epidemics. Poliomyelitis continues to be the most serious infectious disease. During the year there were two cases of paralytic and no non-paralytic cases.

The list of notifiable diseases has its origin in antiquity. This list was designed to meet a particular need. In many cases that need has been satisfied and could, with benefit, be amended. Unless the notification of a disease serves a definite purpose, I feel it should be deleted.

The diseases I should like to delete from the list are puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, pneumonia, measles and scarlet fever. Puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum and pneumonia were made notifiable before the advent of sulphonamides and antibiotics. These drugs have turned dangerous, often fatal and frequently crippling diseases, into diseases which are easily controlled. The importance of measles is the complications which are again controllable by drugs. As far as measles is concerned, we have no specific treatment and no generally used prophylactic. Gamma Globulin will prevent or modify a case of measles, but it is expensive and difficult to produce and it is most unlikely that it will ever be in general use.

In the case of the remaining notifiable diseases, notifications still play a vital part, as by early notification segregation of the case and isolation or examination of contacts can be carried out.

In place of the deleted diseases, I would like to see added:- anthrax, brucellosis, leptospirosis and tetanus in the list of notifiable diseases.

It is with regret that I leave the services of the Southwick Urban District Council. I would like, in conclusion, to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Shott for his close co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. HARRISON

Medical Officer of Health

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee,  
Southwick Urban District Council.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

T. H. HARRISON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. part-time with other districts in the County. Also Port Medical Officer to the New Shoreham Port Health Authority, Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer to the West Sussex County Council.

Public Health Inspector

T.A. EARDLEY, M.S.I.A., Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Duties: General duties of Sanitary Inspectors as laid down in the Sanitary Officers' Order, including inspection of meat and other foods.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health

MISS D. SANGER

Rodent Operator (part-time)

B. R. ROBERTS



## SECTION I

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Southwick is a small urban area on the south coast, situated four miles west of Brighton.

The eastern arm of Shoreham Harbour, known locally as "The Canal", forms the southern boundary of the district. On the strip of land south of the Canal are situated the Electricity Works of the British Electricity Authority and the works of the South Eastern Gas Board. The sheltered water of the Canal is used as a harbour by private yachts.

The chief industries in the town are electricity production, dyeing, sheet metal work and lingerie manufacturing.

#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,127
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid-year 1958).	...	...					11,500
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...		10,718
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£188,599
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...		£741
No. of inhabited houses at the end of 1958 according to Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...		4,164

#### VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live births	86	81	167
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 pop.			14.6
Still births	-	1	1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 pop. live and still births			5.95
Total Live and Still Births			168



### DEATHS

Males - 88	Females - 77	Total	165
------------	--------------	-------	-----

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	14.3
--	------

Corrected Death Rate ... ..	12.0
-----------------------------	------

The Chief causes of death were

- (i) Diseases of heart and circulatory system
- (ii) Cancer

The above causes accounted for approximately 70% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	NIL
---	-----

Infant deaths	Total 3	M. 2	F. 1
---------------	---------	------	------

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	18.0
---	------

" " " " " " " (legitimate)	18.4
----------------------------	------

" " " " " " " (illegitimate)	NIL
------------------------------	-----

Neonatal mortality (i.e. first four weeks)	11.3
--	------

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.4
--	-----

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	NIL
--------------------------------------	-----

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	NIL
---	-----





CAUSES OF DEATH IN SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	1	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	...	...	2	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	8	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, Breast	...	...	...	...	-	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	-	2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	5	7
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	-	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	14	15
18.	Coronary disease angina	...	...	...	...	17	5
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	1	1
20.	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	11	13
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	5	4
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	-	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	4
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	7	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	-	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	2	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	4	7
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	2	6
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	-	-
TOTAL CAUSES:						88	77



## SECTION II

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES

The following infectious diseases are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health.

Cholera	Plague
Diphtheria	Pneumonia (Primary or
Dysentery	Influenzal)
Encephalitis (Acute)	Poliomyelitis (Acute)
Enteric (Typhoid or	Puerperal Pyrexia
Paratyphoid) fever	Relapsing fever
Erysipelas	Scarlet fever
Malaria	Smallpox
Measles	Tuberculosis
Meningococcal Infection	Typhus
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Whooping Cough

Food Poisoning or Suspected Food Poisoning

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### TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1958.

			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-14	"	N	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24	"	E	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-34	"	W	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-44	"	C	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45-54	"	A	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-64	"	S	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.		E	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
		S								
Totals			3	6	-	-	2	-	-	-

### CASES ON REGISTER AT 31st DECEMBER 1958

Pulmonary	M	37	F	29	66	= Total
Non-Pulmonary	M	6	F	6	12	
Totals		43		35	78	



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1958

	Total Cases	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital
Measles	87	1	10	6	65	5	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Totals	101	2	11	6	68	5	-	2	6	1	-







TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS - 1947 / 1958

YEAR	Est. Popu- lation	NO. OF BIRTHS					Crude Birth Rate	NO. OF DEATHS			Crude Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	
		Legitimate		Illegitimate				M	F	Total			
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total						
1947	10,380	103	90	193	5	9	14	19.9.	64	56	120	11.6	53.0
1948	10,690	94	60	154	3	4	7	15.1	54	63	117	10.9	19.0
1949	10,650	69	62	131	6	4	10	13.2	67	67	134	12.6	43.0
1950	10,800	81	64	145	10	7	17	15.0	69	69	138	12.8	30.9
1951	10,690	71	67	138	4	1	5	13.4	65	69	134	12.5	6.9
1952	10,680	71	69	140	4	5	9	13.9	64	70	134	12.5	Nil
1953	10,830	56	71	127	4	1	5	12.2	56	64	120	11.9	15.1
1954	11,010	69	72	141	3	6	9	13.6	68	68	136	12.4	33.3
1955	11,100	71	70	141	2	2	4	13.1	65	68	133	12.0	20.6
1956	11,250	71	75	146	1	4	5	13.4	80	75	155	13.8	19.9
1957	11,410	73	65	138	3	6	9	12.8	73	66	139	12.2	54.4
1958	11,500	86	81	167	-	1	1	14.6	67	57	124	10.8	17.8



## SECTION III

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Hospitals

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Doctors can arrange whatever forms of treatment are needed for their patients in general or special hospitals, whether as in-patients or out-patients. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances, subject to appropriate charges. All types of cases are thus provided for - medical, surgical, maternity, infectious diseases, and those requiring sanatorium or mental hospital treatment.

#### Nursing

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the West Sussex County Council to serve in the area. Lists showing names and addresses of these nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls, or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester.

#### Ambulance Service

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the county. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

#### Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Eastern Road, Brighton 7 carries out all public health work for the Council, including examinations of water, milk and ice-creams, ear, nose and throat swabs, specimens of excreta and bacteriological examination of food.

#### General Medical and Dental Services

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175 Broyle Road, Chichester.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council, and no cases have been notified.





Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 172

No action has been taken by the Council under this Section which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a Magistrate's Order for the removal of tubercular persons to an Institution for isolation.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations, which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of Milk.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47

It has not been found necessary to take action under this Section.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Unless otherwise stated, all clinics are held at the following address:-

Health Centre, Middle Road, Shoreham. Telephone 2874.

Infant Welfare

Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.  
Social Club, The Twitten, Southwick.

Thursdays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.  
All Souls Church Hall, Downsway, Southwick.

Ante-Natal

Fortnightly - Friday 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.  
Community Centre, Southwick Street, Southwick.

Family Planning

2nd Friday in the month, 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Orthopaedic

By appointment. Health Centre, Irene Avenue,  
Lancing. (Tel: Lancing 3128)





Eye

Friday morning - by appointment.

Dental

By appointment.

Speech Therapy

By appointment.

The following clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board:-

Tuberculosis

Wednesday - by appointment  
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.

Venereal Disease

Worthing Hospital, Worthing.

<u>Males:</u>	Wednesday 5.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Friday 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.
<u>Females:</u>	Wednesday 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.	Friday 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.



## SECTION IV

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water Supply.

There is an abundant supply of pure water from the Brighton Corporation. The supply is constant and all the houses in the area are served direct.

Extensions of public water supplies during the year:-

Location	Length (yds.)	Diameter (Ins.)
New School, Kingston Lane	117	4"
Southwick Street	175	4"
Off Old Shoreham Road	71	3"

#### Drainage and Sewerage

Schemes are under consideration for the provision of a new high level storage tank and for further extension of the sea outfall.

All sewers discharge directly into the sea.

#### Public Cleansing

Arrangements are made with the Surveyor's Department to use insecticide spray on vehicles when collecting refuse; the public are also encouraged to use a disinfectant powder in the refuse bins.

#### Rivers and Streams

No action has been taken to check pollution of rivers and streams.



Tents, Vans and Sheds

No. of inspections	...	...	...	22
No. of complaints received	..	...	...	4
No. of contraventions observed	...	...	...	2
No. abated	...	...	...	2

Shops Act, 1950

No. of shops in the district	...	...	164
No. of inspections	...	...	301
No. of defects found	...	...	5
(Ventilation 3, Sanitary defects 2)			
No. of defects remedied	...	...	5

Smoke Abatement

No. of observations made	...	...	35
No. of notices served	...	...	1
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	1

Verminous Premises

(1) Council Houses

(a) Found to be infested with bed bugs	3
(b) Disinfested	3

(2) Other Houses

(a) Found to be infested with bed bugs	1
(b) Disinfested	1

Infested houses are treated with sulphur dioxide and gemmexane smoke, or sprayed with Roxem Insecticide, according to the circumstances.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No. of premises registered under this Act	Nil
No. of inspections made	Nil





### Schools

No. of schools in the district	...	...	...	5
No. with public water supply	...	...	...	5
No. with water closets:				
Separate pedestal	...	...	...	5

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

All complaints of rats and mice infestation received during the year have been investigated. Warfarin is used together with the approved methods of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. Free service is given to all householders on private premises. A sewer treatment has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food.

### Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made:-

(a) Factories with mechanical power	...	...	65
(b) Factories without mechanical power	...	...	31
(c) Other premises	...	...	5
Defects found as a result of inspections	...	...	Nil

There are 21 outworkers in this district.

### Summary of Sanitary Works and Improvements

No. of inspections in regard to Infectious Disease	29
No. of premises disinfected after Infectious Disease	15
No. of verminous premises disinfested ... ..	15
No. of nuisances found to exist ... ..	42
No. of nuisances abated ... ..	38
No. of ashbins provided ... ..	41
Total inspections for all purposes ... ..	1,609
Informal notices served ... ..	49
Statutory notices served ... ..	2
No. of summonses issued ... ..	1
No. of convictions obtained ... ..	1
Complaints received ... ..	49
Complaints found justified and dealt with ...	45



# SECTION V

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

No. of Milk Distributors in the district ...	...	...	13
No. of these registered as Wholesalers only ...	...	...	-
No. of these registered as Retailers only ...	...	...	12
No. of these registered as both Wholesalers and Retailers ...	...	...	1

No. of inspections made:-

(1) Cowsheds ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(2) Milkshops ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42

No. of inspections during milking time ... 1

No. of licences granted by the Sanitary Authority:-

(1) To bottle (a) T.T. milk ...	...	...	...	...	-
(b) Accredited milk ...	...	...	...	...	-
(2) To pasteurise milk ...	...	...	...	...	-
(3) To retail milk using the designation -					
(a) Tuberculin Tested ...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Accredited ...	...	...	...	...	-
(c) Pasteurised ...	...	...	...	...	11
(d) Sterilised ...	...	...	...	...	9

Bacteriological sample of milk

Designation	No. of Samples Taken		No. complying with standard	No. failing to comply with standard
	By County Council	By Sanitary Authority		
Pasteurised	-	72	71	1



### Meat and Other Foods

No. of visits to grocers and greengrocers shops ... 301

The following were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Pineapple	4 tins
Beans	1 "
Tomatoes	1 "
Sardines	1 "
Pilchards	1 "
Peaches	1 "
Pineapple	
slices	1 "
Stewed Steak	1 "
Corned Beef	6 lbs.
Pastilles	3,954 packets

No. of visits to butchers shops ... 84

227 lbs. of beef, 30 lbs. ox cheek and 17 lbs. bacon were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were accordingly condemned.

-----

No. of food premises in the district by type of business

Grocery	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fish and chip shops and Wet fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Street Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>3</u>
						Total	<u>99</u>

No. of food premises in the district by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	27
Butchers shops (Preparation or manufacture of sausages)	...	...	...	...	...	8
The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54.	...	...	...	...	...	<u>13</u>
					Total	<u>48</u>

No. of inspections of registered food premises... 560







## SECTION VI

### HOUSING

#### HOUSING STATISTICS, 1958

##### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts ... ..)	96
	(b)	No. of inspections made for this purpose ..	318
(2)	(a)	No. of dwelling-houses (including under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	18
	(b)	No. of inspections made for this purpose ..	34
(3)	(a)	No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	96
(4)		No. of dwelling-houses (excluding those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	18

##### 2. Remedying of defects without Service of Formal Notices

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their officers...	48
---	----

##### 3. Action under Statutory powers during the year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
--	---



(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notice	...	...	...	Nil
(a)	By Owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	Nil
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts	..	...	...	Nil
C.	Proceedings under 11 and 13, Housing Act, 1936.	...	...	...	Nil
D.	Proceedings under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936.	...	...	...	Nil

Housing Acts, 1936-1949 - Overcrowding

(a)	i.	No. of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	Nil
	ii.	No. of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	Nil
	iii.	No. of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	Nil
(b)		No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	..	...	...	Nil
(c)		No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	..	...	...	Nil
(d)		Particulars of any case in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	Nil

-----oOo-----

